



# ENERGY AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, March 14, 2022, 3:00 p.m. ZOOM MEETING**

**ATTENDEES:** Tim Erickson, Glenn Foy, Karen Stears, Randy Hafer, Debbie Singer, Louis Engels, Erin Robbins

**ABSENT:** Neil Kiner

**GUESTS:** Carole Baumann and Erin Robbins

1. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** – Randy made the motion, Debbie seconded, and passed unanimously.
2. **Public Comment Period** – League of Women voters will hold a public meeting on May 14 at 10:00 am in the community room at the Library regarding water conservation (outdoor water usage). Louis may be speaking at the meeting. Carole would appreciate a letter to send to the Billings Gazette regarding the work of the Energy Conservation Committee. LWV agenda should be finalized in the next two weeks. Glenn asked if the new Public Information Officer could help with ECC information. Louis will get back to the commission with that answer.
3. **Status of submission/schedule** – Glenn had a technology issue with the formatting of all the documentation for the LEED submission. Debbie has stepped in and helped. Glenn is hopeful to have everything finalized by the end of the week. Billings should be within the four cities that will meet the deadline by the end of March. Karen will update the edible forest information.
4. **Discussion regarding next steps/formulate plan/schedule** – Water conservation. Tim asked how to include other initiatives into LEED for cities, add recommendations to City Council that includes the CIP keep within the framework, not everything needs to be LEED related, Louis suggested 2 months on each area in LEED with each City Division coming in to discuss their areas. Glenn suggested putting lists together to figure out what the commission's direction should be. Randy asked if the commission can start meeting in person. Louis will set up an in person meeting for April.

5. **Stillwater Building - Sustainability goals** – Update from Randy – City Council did vote to pursue tax credits for the Stillwater building. Randy asked the commission for a blessing to have the Stillwater Building be a platinum LEED certified with the help of consultants. cost return on investment. Cushing Terrell has been hired to help with the mechanical engineering. Tim thought it would help to have a presentation from the commission to educate the public Tim wants to hear from all consultants to see how we get from silver to platinum according to state standards before making a stance from the commission. We need to be more educated as a commission before we endorse the LEED certification. Glenn asked Randy for other energy credits or different efficiencies in the mechanical areas Debbie said there isn't a lot of energy credits for municipalities. Windows will be a question with the Stillwater building also but they can be improved without replacing them.

Leadership staying the same on ECC voting.

### **Action Items**

Louis PIO

Billings Gazette letter for League of Women Voters

SharePoint for all documents for ECC

Louis laundry list of items – will be able for next meeting

Louis to speak on water conservation at the next meeting water supply 1000 year drought the flows on the Yellowstone River 99% of the flow exceeds the 725 cfs able to provide water to Billings flood or an ice jam is more of a risk than drought.

Do an additional special meeting with Jessica to see if they are using the LEED framework or what the architects are using. Randy will follow up with City officials to see if to proceed with a meeting will check with city manager first. Meeting ended 4:50